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Foot 20-567/26/87  
12:18 p.m.CHRONOLOGY OF  
NOVEMBER 20-25, 1986  
JUSTICE DEPARTMENT INQUIRYThursday, November 20.

- 8:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.:  
Meese joins staff meeting with Cooper and Richardson.
- \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (pre-10:15 a.m.):  
Meese calls Casey.
- 12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.:  
Meese, Cooper, Reynolds, Bolton, Richardson--have luncheon meeting re: Casey testimony.
- 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 or 3:30 p.m.:  
Meese, Casey, Gates, Poindexter, North, Cooper, and Thompson meet in Poindexter's office re: Casey testimony. Cooper discovers discrepancy in testimony.
- 3:27 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:  
Burns returns a call from Sofaer, who advises him of problems with Casey testimony.
- 3:50 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:  
Burns tells Sofaer that the Attorney General has been advised of problems, but that Meese is aware of facts that explain everything.
- 3:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.:  
Cooper is called into Wallison's office, with Thompson. Sofaer calls during meeting to say there is a problem with Casey's testimony. Sofaer tells Cooper he has spoken to Burns and is not satisfied with the response.
- 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.:  
Sofaer calls Cooper about his concerns. Tells Cooper of contemporaneous State Department notes contradicting Casey's proposed testimony. Sofaer threatens to have the State Department (testifying with Casey) dispute any false statements made at the hearing and also says he will resign unless testimony corrected.

Partially Declassified/Released on 12/2/87  
under provisions of E.O. 12356  
-J B. Reger, National Security Council

4380

UNCLASSIFIED

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2

10:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.:

Cooper calls Meese at West Point and passes on concerns, including existence of State Department notes. Meese agrees that more serious inquiry in order and says he will return to Washington. Instructs Cooper to call Poindexter.

11:00 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Cooper calls Poindexter and states that testimony cannot go forward as is. Poindexter states that he had tried to reach Casey who was too groggy to discuss the matter.

11:28 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Cooper advises Sofaer that he has spoken to Meese.

\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_:

Shultz advises Reagan that some Administration statements will not stand up under scrutiny.

Friday, November 21.

7:20 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Casey speaks to Poindexter.

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.:

Cooper meets with Casey and Doherty re: testimony. Casey accepts revisions without comment. Jameson whispers to Cooper that there is evidence that the pilot knew there was military equipment on November 1985 shipment.

8:30 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

DOJ staff meeting. Weld argues for Criminal Division inquiry.

9:00 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Casey testifies before House Intelligence Committee.

9:15 a.m. - 10:45 or 11:15 a.m.:

Meese, Burns, Reynolds, Cooper, Richardson meet. Meese decides to go to the President and recommend that he be commissioned to gather the facts.

9:22 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese calls Poindexter on secure phone and advises that he will ask President to authorize fact-finding. Requests that Regan and Poindexter join him at meeting with Reagan.

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3

- 11:00 a.m. - \_\_\_\_:  
McFarlane meets with Ledeene at Ledeene's house. North arrives at 12:30 p.m. and meets with Ledeene for 5 minutes. McFarlane drives North downtown during which time North expresses concern that President be protected and tells him that he will have a shredding party.
- 11:17 a.m. - \_\_\_\_:  
Meese receives call from Poindexter.
- 11:25 a.m. - \_\_\_\_:  
Secord calls Poindexter.
- 11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.:  
Casey testifies before Senate Intelligence Committee.
- 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.:  
Reagan meets with Meese, Regan, and Poindexter to discuss need for complete overview. Meese assigned task and told to report to NSPG on 11/24 at 2:00 p.m.
- 12:15 p.m. - 12:25 p.m.:  
Meese and Poindexter meet. According to Robert Earl, North also meets with Meese, and asks whether he has 24 or 48 hours.
- 12:29 p.m. - \_\_\_\_:  
Poindexter calls North.
- 12:45 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.:  
Meese, Reynolds, Cooper, Richardson, and Bolton (?) have lunch. Meese assembles a team of lawyers "who had experience in this type of matter" and makes list of those to talk to.
- 1:30 p.m. - \_\_\_\_:  
North meets with Poindexter.
- 1:45 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.:  
Meese has "discussion" with Webster and they "agree" that the situation is not criminal in nature and therefore it is not appropriate to involve the FBI.
- 2:15 or 2:25 p.m. - 2:55 p.m.:  
Meese, Reynolds, Cooper, Richardson, Bolton, and Eastland meet. Bolton briefs them on Casey testimony. Reynolds' notes of meeting indicate diversion of TOW missiles to Contras is discussed.

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2:25 p.m. - 2:32 p.m.:

North meets with Poindexter. After this meeting, or the one at 1:30 p.m., North returns to his office, and directs Fawn Hall to alter documents.

2:28 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese calls McFarlane.

2:58 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.:

Meese calls Poindexter on secure phone. Advises Poindexter that he will send over a "couple of his people" to review documents. Thereafter, Poindexter speaks to Thompson and North. North indicates he will destroy notebook. Poindexter does not try to stop him. Subsequently, Poindexter destroys December 5, 1985 finding on previous arms shipments to Iran.

\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_:

Cooper calls Thompson.

3:15 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Ledeon visits North in North's office. North asks Ledeen what his story will be about the November HAWK shipment. Earlier North tells Ledeen that a source at the Department of Justice had advised him to get a lawyer.

3:30 p.m. - 5:35 p.m.:

Meese and Cooper interview McFarlane and they discuss finding. According to McFarlane, Meese apparently volunteers that oral finding sufficient; according to Cooper, there is no discussion of oral finding. There is no mention of either the diversion or the shredding party. As McFarlane leaving, he speaks to Meese alone, expressing view that President fully behind Iranian initiative and, according to Cooper, a desire to protect the President.

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.:

North and Hall destroy documents.

5:45 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

McFarlane phones North from outside the Department of Justice and tells him about his interview with the Attorney General. North tells McFarlane he has been urged to get an attorney and warned that his phone may be bugged.

# UNCLASSIFIED

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5

\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_: McFarlane calls Sofaer and Shultz seeking copies of State Department notes relating to 1985 arms shipments.

\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_: North meets with Green.

6:09 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_: Meese receives call from Webster.

6:20 or 6:25 p.m. - 6:40 or 6:45 p.m.: Meese, Cooper, Reynolds, and Richardson meet. Bolton joins the meeting from 6:30 to 6:35 p.m.

6:55 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_: Meese calls Weinberger.

7:05 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_: Meese calls Casey.

\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_: Shultz calls Meese; interview is arranged for next morning.

\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_: Richard Miller drives North to Green's office. Either on this drive or previous day, North tells Miller Meese has advised him to retain counsel.

Saturday, November 22.

2:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.: McGinnis [REDACTED]

8:00 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.: Meese and Cooper interview Shultz, with Charlie Hill present.

9:30 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_: Gates speaks to Poindexter on secure line.

9:45 or 9:50 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.: Meese meets with Cooper.

9:50 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_: North speaks to Poindexter.

9:55 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_: Casey calls Meese.

UNCLASSIFIED

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6

10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.:

Meese, Cooper, Reynolds, Richardson meet.

10:15 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese speaks to Poindexter.

10:40 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese calls Thompson (for Cooper).

10:45 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese calls Poindexter.

10:58 a.m. - 11:07 a.m.:

Poindexter speaks to Bush.

11:10 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.:

Meese and Cooper interview CIA General Counsel Sporkin.

11:38 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Poindexter speaks to Casey.

12:05 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Reynolds and Richardson examine NSC files. Paul Thompson and Bob Earl present. DOJ officials review documents "presented to them" and have copies made of those considered important. They discover early April memo that explicitly refers to diversion. As they are leaving, North arrives and indicates he was aware they would be in NSC offices; volunteers to answer questions. According to North, he shreds documents while Reynolds and Richardson are in the office and continues while they are at lunch.

1:25 p.m. - 3:20 p.m.:

Casey and Poindexter, have lunch. North joins them at 2:50 p.m. (until 3:40). Alton Keel may have been there briefly according to Poindexter. According to Poindexter, no discussion of diversion or of destruction of 1985 finding. At 2:52 p.m., during the lunch, Regan calls Casey.

1:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.:

Meese, Reynolds, Cooper, and Richardson have lunch at Old Ebbitt. Reynolds advises Meese of diversion memo.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

7

- - 7:15 p.m.:  
Reynolds and Richardson return to NSC offices. where North provides more documents. North indicates he expects "to take the fall". They do not review the files of Poindexter, McFarlane or Thompson. Richardson tells North that Meese wishes to meet with him. North tells Reynolds and Richardson he has retained an attorney.
- 3:40 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:  
North calls Meese. Meese makes appointment with North to meet on 11/23 at 2:00 p.m. Agrees to allow North to go to church in morning.
- 3:46 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:  
Casey calls Meese.
- 5:40 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:  
Poindexter speaks to North.
- 5:45 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:  
Meese meets with Casey at latter's home. They discuss Furmark and Canadian investors. Meese is "sure" that Casey "did not mention anything about Central America" and does not believe there was discussion of the contras or the Nicaraguan resistance.
- 6:00 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.:  
Cooper goes to CIA with McGinnis and interviews Doherty, Dietel, Jameson, McHoffa, and [REDACTED]. Cooper has telephone conversation with [REDACTED].

Sunday, November 23.

- 9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.:  
Cooper goes to CIA with McGinnis and interviews Allen, Jameson, Doherty, and Clarridge.
- 9:15 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:  
North calls McFarlane and asks to meet.
- - \_\_\_\_\_:  
North speaks to Secord.
- 9:45 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:  
Cooper meets with Allen and Doherty.

UNCLASSIFIED

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8

10:10 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese speaks to Casey. Cooper then meets with Casey.

10:45 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Reynolds and Richardson go to NSC.

12:30 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.:

North and McFarlane meet in latter's office with no one else present. According to McFarlane, North states that: (1) there is a problem with the diversion; (2) diversion was a matter of record in memo; and (3) it was an approved matter. Green arrives, and Secord arrives minutes later; McFarlane leaves them to talk in his office.

12:32 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese calls Regan.

12:40 or 12:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.:

Meese, Cooper, Reynolds, and Richardson meet.

2:15 or 2:55 p.m. - 5:55 p.m.:

Meese, Reynolds, Cooper, and Richardson interview North. (Meese leaves interview at 4:05 p.m.) North states: (1) arms deal authorized by Reagan; (2) idea of diversion surfaced in discussion with Nir in 1/86; (3) \$3-4 million diverted after February shipment of TOWs and more after May shipment of HAWK parts; (4) Israeli controlled the money; (5) North gave Swiss account numbers (accounts opened by Calero) to Israelis; and (6) only he, McFarlane, and Poindexter aware of diversion. North is "visibly surprised" when shown undated memo. Unclear whether North tells Meese that he does not think that the undated memo was used or sent for approval.

\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_:

North calls McFarlane and tells him about Meese interview.

\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_:

North calls Poindexter and then shreds more documents. Remains in office shredding until at least 4:50 a.m. when alarm is tripped.

6:00 p.m. - 6:45 or 7:00 p.m.:

Meese, Cooper, Reynolds, and Richardson meet.

UNCLASSIFIED



UNCLASSIFIED

9

7:00 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Sofaer calls Cooper and says he fears there was excess profit from Iran arms sales. Believes money may have gone to contras because of involvement of Southern Air Transport in both operations.

Monday, November 24.

7:20 a.m. - 7:50 a.m.:

Meese, Reynolds, Cooper, Cribb, Richardson meet to review what found. Meese asks staff to look over criminal laws and other applicable statutes.

8:57 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Poindexter talks with McFarlane.

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.:

Cooper meets with Sofaer and Hill; sees 1985 notes on arms shipments.

9:12 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Poindexter calls North on secure phone.

\* [\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese may have spoken to Webster.]

! 9:55 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese calls Weld.

10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.:

Meese meets with McFarlane about diversion. McFarlane states that he only learned about it during May trip to Tehran. McFarlane does not tell Meese about "shredding party".

10:02 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese calls Regan.

10:10 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese calls Bush.

10:25 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Poindexter speaks to Casey.

10:29 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Poindexter speaks to Weinberger.

\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese has telephone conversation with Weinberger, who does "not have much to add."

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

10

10:55 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Poindexter speaks to North on secure line.

11:00 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

According to Regan, Meese meets with him and advises him of diversion and North's confirmation. Also according to Regan, Meese thereafter meets with Reagan; tells him he needs to complete review and will report later. According to Meese, he meets with Regan and Reagan and advises both of diversion.

11:44 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese calls McFarlane.

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.:

Meese, Reynolds, Cooper, Cribb, and Richardson meet.

1:30 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

McGinnis tells Richardson that he had heard rumors at the CIA that Iran money was diverted to the contras. According to Cooper, he would likely have passed this information on to Meese.

1:40 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese meets with Bush.

2:00 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Reagan, Bush, Meese, Shultz, Weinberger, Regan, Poindexter, Casey, and Cave meet to discuss Iran. According to Meese, diversion not discussed.

2:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.:

Reynolds and Cooper meet with Green who describes Hakim's role in proposing diversion. Reynolds tells Meese of his conversation with Green, but Meese does not remember if Reynolds tells him that Green has confirmed the diversion.

2:44 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Secord talks to North.

4:15 p.m. - 4:20 p.m.:

Meese interviews Poindexter in latter's office for 10 minutes. Meese is alone and takes no notes. Poindexter acknowledges knowing "generally" about diversion and adds that North gave him "enough hints" to know the money was going to the contras. He did not inquire further, however, and told no one about the diversion. According to Poindexter, According to Poindexter, Meese does not ask him if

UNCLASSIFIED

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11

he ever told the President; according to Meese, he does ask him, and Poindexter responds that he has not told the President or Regan.

4:30 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese meets with Reagan and Regan. He relates Poindexter statements and discusses "looking at what applicable criminal laws there might be." Meese later testifies that neither Regan nor Reagan "knew anything about this."

\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese meets with Bush.

\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_:

Casey calls Cooper, after meeting with Furmark at the CIA. Asks what Cooper knows about "Lakeside Resources."

6:10 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Casey speaks to Poindexter on secure phone.

\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_:

Regan talks to Casey about diversion.

6:53 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese calls Poindexter.

\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_:

[REDACTED]

Tuesday, November 25.

6:30 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Casey calls Meese.

6:35 or 6:40 a.m. - 6:45 or 7:00 a.m.:

Meese meets with Casey at latter's house. Richardson accompanies Meese in car, but is not present at meeting. According to Meese, Casey states that he had heard from Regan the previous evening about the diversion and that Poindexter was planning to resign. Casey tells Meese he will send him the Furmark memoranda.

\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_:

Regan calls Meese at Casey's.

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12

7:15 - 7:45 a.m.:

Meese meets with Poindexter; advises him that time has come to submit resignation.

7:50 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese calls Weinberger.

7:50 a.m. - 8:02 a.m.:

Regan tells Poindexter to tender his resignation at the 9:30 a.m. briefing.

8:00 or 8:15 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese, Regan, Cooper, Thomas, Wallison meet. Review board proposed by Regan.

8:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.:

Cooper meets with Wallison and Thomas to draft Presidential statement. Thereafter, Cooper and Richardson meet with Buchanan, Speakes, Thomas and Wallison to review the statement.

8:55 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Poindexter speaks to Regan.

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.:

Meese meets with Reagan, Bush, and Regan and advises them of what he has learned and that a criminal investigation probably will be convened.

9:10 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Poindexter speaks to Weinberger.

9:20 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.:

Poindexter meets with North.

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.:

Meese meets with Reagan, Bush, Regan, and Poindexter. Poindexter resigns.

9:35 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Green speaks to North.

10:05 a.m. - 10:10 a.m.:

Poindexter meets with Meese.

10:15 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Meese attends NSC meeting with Regan.

10:25 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:

Secord calls for Poindexter; speaks to Thompson.

UNCLASSIFIED

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13

- 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon:  
Meeting with Congressional leadership.
- 11:45 a.m. - 12:00 noon:  
North's log indicates that Reynolds has telephone conversation with North and/or Green.
- 12:00 noon - 12:48 p.m.:  
Meese press conference on diversion.
- 12:03 p.m. - \_\_\_\_:  
Poindexter speaks to Casey on secure line.
- 1:30 p.m. - \_\_\_\_:  
Cooper, Cribb, Reynolds, Bolton and Richardson have lunch in Cribb's office.
- 1:45 p.m. - 1:50 p.m.:  
Meese meets with Webster. Tells Webster DOJ will research criminal statutes.
- 2:05 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.:  
Meese meets with Webster(?), Burns, Reynolds, Cooper, Richardson, and Cribb. Trott joins meeting at 2:20 p.m. At this meeting, Meese directs Burns to notify White House Counsel to take security precautions, and directs Cooper to meet with Weld about applicable laws. (Burns fails to do this immediately.) Meese advises Webster that he is turning the matter over to the Criminal Division and would "probably" need FBI resources. (Those resources were requested the next day.) Cooper subsequently meets with Weld and briefs him.
- \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_:  
North, Secord, and Green meet.
- 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.:  
Meese attends NSPG meeting with Reagan.
- 4:00 p.m. - 4:02 p.m.:  
Meese meets with Poindexter.
- 4:10 p.m. - 4:40 p.m.:  
Meese meets with Reynolds, Cooper, Cribb, and Richardson.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

14

- 4:40 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:  
Meese has telephone conversation with Israeli Foreign Minister Peres. Peres states that Israelis handled no money, but merely told the Iranians what accounts to put it into.
- 6:40 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:  
Meese meets with Richardson, Cribb, Burns, Trott, Reynolds, Cooper, Weld, Bolton, and Korten (to 6:50 p.m.) on "press update/guidance" and possible criminal violations.
- \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_:  
Hall and North remove documents; exchange them in Green's car.
- 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.:  
Cooper, Reynolds, and McGinnis meet with Susan Crawford and DOD personnel to discuss Economy Act transfers and pricing.
- 7:05 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:  
McFarlane calls Meese.

Monday, December 1.

- \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_:  
Reynolds and Public Integrity Section lawyer William Hendricks meet with Green, despite objections from Criminal Division that Reynolds should not participate. Green represents Secord and requests immunity; he urges the Department not to apply for an independent counsel.
- 2:00 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:  
Meese meets with Reagan.
- 2:20 p.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:  
Meese meets with Burns, Cooper, Bolton, Cribb, Weld and representatives of the Criminal Division on Iran investigation.

Tuesday, December 2.

- 10:00 a.m. - \_\_\_\_\_:  
Meese decides to apply for an independent counsel.

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